Renewable energy policy

2251. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government gives importance to non-conventional energy sources;

(b) if so, the estimated non-conventional energy potential of the country;

(c) whether it is a fact that there is no renewable energy policy in place in the country;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to put in place a renewable energy policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government is promoting the development of various renewable energy sources to supplement conventional energy generation. Already, about 8% of the total installed power generation capacity has been established through renewable energy sources.

(b) A potential of around 90,000 MWeq for energy/power generation from different renewable energy sources (excluding solar) in the country has been estimated as on date as under:—

Wind power	:	48,561 MW
Small Hydro Power	:	14,294 MW
Bio Power	:	26,367 MW

The potential for solar energy is estimated for most parts of the country at around 20MW per square kilometer of open, shadow free area covered with solar collectors.

(c) to (e) An Expert Committee constituted by the Planning Commission has already prepared an Integrated Energy Policy Report (IEPR) covering all sources of energy including renewable energy sources.

Power generation from non-conventional sources

†2252. SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for not increasing the power generation as people in each part of the country are facing scarcity of power and Government has made a number of promises to increase the power generation;

(b) to what extent Government has promoted the non-conventional sources of power;

(c) to what extent it has increased the power generation;

(d) whether efforts are being made by Government to generate power from non-conventional sources of energy even in rural areas;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.